

REMARKS

Claim 23 was objected to and has been amended to address the item raised by the Examiner.

Claims 1-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Avinash. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*,

pre-processing said first image and said second image, said preprocessing includes performing detector corrections on first image and the second image;

post-processing the raw soft-tissue image to form a processed soft-tissue image, said post-processing the raw soft-tissue image includes performing noise reduction on the raw soft-tissue image;

post-processing the raw bone image to form a processed bone image, said post-processing the raw bone image includes performing noise reduction on the raw bone image.

Avinash fails to teach or suggest these features, in particular, detector correction preprocessing and the post processing noise reduction of the soft-tissue image and the bone image. With respect to detector correction, Avinash makes no reference to detector correction. The Examiner cites to column 4, lines 8-32 but this section of Avinash does not discuss detector correction. Further, with respect to noise reduction, Avinash makes reference anatomic noise in the Background section and notes that dual energy imaging is used to address this type of noise. There is no further discussion in Avinash of noise reduction.

In view of the forgoing, Avinash fails to teach all the elements of claim 1 and thus claim 1 is patentable over Avinash. Claims 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10-14 depend from claim 1 and are patentable over Avinash for at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1. Claims 15-25 include elements similar to those discussed above with reference to claim 1 and are patentable over Avinash for at least the reasons advanced with reference to claim 1.

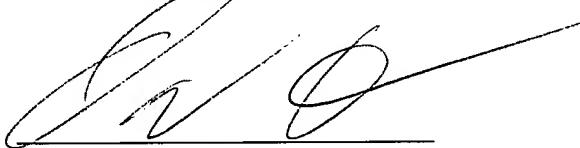
Further, claims 7 and 10 have been amended to recite that the presentation processing includes edge enhancement. There is no reference in Avinash of edge enhancement.

It is noted that the subject matter of this application and U.S. Patent 6,580,779, at the time of the invention of the subject matter of this application, were commonly owned or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same entity, namely GE Medical Systems Global Technology Company, LLC.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 07-0845 maintained by Applicant's Assignee.

Respectfully submitted,

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